

Preliminary Amendment dated December 8, 2005  
Application claiming priority from PCT/CH2004/000337  
Attorney Docket No.: UP-342

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please add the following new paragraph immediately following the title on page 1:

This application claims priority of PCT application PCT/CH2004/000337 having a priority date of June 12, 2003, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated herein by reference.

Please replace the heading at page 1, line 3, with the following rewritten heading:

~~Technical field~~ Field of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The invention relates to a loom ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~.

Please replace the heading at page 1, line 7, with the following rewritten heading:

~~Prior art~~ Background of the Invention

Please replace the heading at page 1, line 35, with the following rewritten heading:

~~Presentation of the invention~~ Summary of the Invention

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Advantageous refinements of the loom are described below ~~in claims 2 to 22~~.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 24, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~According to claim 2, the~~ The second lifting device may be a lifting beam extending over all the warp threads. The lifting travel of the second lifting device may vary greatly, and it is advantageous if, ~~according to claim 3, the~~ latter executes at least half the lifting travel of the warp threads in the shed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 31, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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For the design of the first lifting device, there are various design variants which are already contained in WO 99/13145. An embodiment ~~that as claimed in claim 4~~ is particularly advantageous, ~~according to which the~~ includes a first lifting device which has for each warp thread a control drop wire with a driver slot and an assigned driver, preferably of hook-shaped design, for the associated warp thread. The warp thread can be brought selectively into engagement with the driver by means of a control drop wire switchable by means of the actuator. ~~According to claim 5, the~~ In some embodiments, the driver slot is assigned to the displacement path of the driver and, in the switching region, is guided, via a control slot running obliquely with respect to the direction of displacement of the driver, out of the displacement path of the driver into a widened guide slot of the control drop wire. To facilitate the introduction of the warp thread into the control slot, ~~according to claim 6,~~ the guide slot is provided with a run-on side.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

In principle, the control drop wire may be configured as a sheet steel strip. ~~The design as claimed in claim 7 is advantageous, however, according to which~~ In one advantageous design, the control drop wire is formed in the shape of a sleeve with two side walls, between which the driver is mounted displaceably. A reliable guidance of the warp thread from and to the driver is thereby achieved. To protect the warp thread, on the one hand, and to facilitate the run of the warp thread through the control drop wire, on the other hand, ~~according to claim 8~~ at least the guide slot and the control slot are offset relative to one another in the two side walls of the control drop wire in the direction of run of the warp thread, in such a way that a deflection of the running warp thread in the control drop wire is lower than 90°, preferably 10°.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 30, with the following rewritten paragraph:

There are various possibilities for driving the drivers, there being preference, ~~according to claim 9,~~ for all the drivers of a row to be movable up and down by means of a common lifting

knife. This affords a particularly simple and cost-effective solution.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 36, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Since the warp threads are moved in each case out of a first shedding position into the second shedding position, their displacement travel is such that the elasticity of the warp thread is not sufficient, as a rule, to ensure satisfactory functioning. It is therefore advantageous if, ~~according to claim 10,~~ the warp thread tensioning device has an individual thread tensioner for each warp thread on the run-in side of the warp threads to the shedding device. The tension of the individual warp thread can thereby be adapted more closely to the respective position of the warp thread in the shed. The loom may have the conventional additional catch thread devices. It is more advantageous, however, if, ~~according to claim 11,~~ the thread tensioner is at the same time also designed as a catch thread device.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

~~According to claim 12,~~ In some embodiments, each warp thread is guided via two guide elements which are arranged at a distance from one another and between which is arranged the thread tensioner which engages on the warp thread and exerts a pretension on the warp thread. ~~According to claim 13, the~~ The pretension may be generated by a tensioning weight. ~~The design as claimed in claim 14 is more advantageous according to which~~ In a more advantageous design, the pretension is generated by a tensioning spring. This also makes it possible, in particular, to arrange the thread tensioner in a position deviating from the vertical.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 27, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The thread tensioner may be provided with a closed eye. ~~The design as claimed in claim 15 is more advantageous, however, according to which~~ In a more advantageous design, however, each thread tensioner has a lateral run-in eye for the warp thread. ~~According to claim 16, In~~

some embodiments, each thread tensioner is provided with a guide orifice, by means of which it is mounted on a holder displaceably in the tensioning direction. Expediently, the thread tensioner is provided, in the direction opposite to the pretensioning direction, with a grip part which preferably has a signal part projecting out of the direction of displacement. Such a signal part may be, for example, a projecting head part of the thread tensioner. As a result, a thread tensioner on which a thread fault has occurred can be detected more easily, since it emerges from the plane of the thread tensioners which are operating satisfactorily.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 7, with the following rewritten paragraph:

It is particularly expedient if, ~~according to claim 17~~, the thread tensioner is arranged on a holder which has a middle contact part which projects on one side and which, insulated, is embedded into lateral contact parts cooperating with the sides of the guide orifice of the thread tensioner. In the event of a faulty warp thread tension, the contact parts come into touch with an end face of the guide orifice, this touch bridging the contacts and thus triggering a fault signal.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

The thread tensioner can be used in the most diverse possible looms. It is preferably used, however, in a loom ~~according to claim 18~~, in which the warp thread tensioning device has a control device which is connected to the drive of a cloth take-up in such a way as to control the warp beam such that the warp threads as a whole are under a predeterminable tension force. The retaining force may be generated by means of a braking device at the warp let-off. ~~An embodiment as claimed in claim 19 is more advantageous, however, according to which, to~~ To generate the retaining force in a more advantageous embodiment, the warp beam is provided with specific drive which contains a selflocking gear. The warp thread tensioning device can be further improved by means of the design ~~as claimed in claim 20~~, according to which it has a back bearer for the warp threads which is pretensioned by means of a tensioning spring device. The tensioning spring device is connected to the control device, so that the drives of the warp beam and of the cloth take-up can be controlled in such a way that the predeterminable tension force is

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maintained at the back bearer. Various variants may be envisaged for the design of the tensioning spring device. ~~The embodiment as claimed in claim 21 is particularly advantageous, according to which~~ In a particularly advantageous embodiment, the tensioning spring device has a leaf spring with a flexion converter which delivers corresponding control signals to the control device. In addition, ~~according to claim 22,~~ the warp thread tensioning device may be designed with a safety device which is operatively connected to the back bearer and which contains an emergency switch which responds when the force of the warp threads which occurs in the back bearer is greater than the set tension force by a determinable safety amount.

Please replace the heading at page 6, line 33, with the following rewritten heading:

Way of implementing the invention Detailed Description of the Invention